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The Sentinel

Vol. 58 No. 5 JAMES HILLHOUSE HIGH SCHOOL, NEW HAVEN, CONN., February 26 1968 Fifteen Cents

Group Progress Vs. Problems

Teachers Join Call of Action

Faculty members, through their liaison committee organized last year to establish communications between the staff and administrators, have begun discussion of the current troubles in the school. The committee, chairmanned by George E. Foote of the history department, is in the process of talking right now and hopes to originate a continuing dialogue with students and parents.

The members of the committee are: Miss Mildred Colbert, George Dorin, Charles Leak, Mrs. Barbara Schmidt, Louis Szemanczky, Charles Garner, Lorenzo Grant, Raymond Heath, James Langan, Alan Norcott, Vincent Matrisciano, Mrs. Lillian Reama, Mrs. Emma Ruff, Dr. James Stuart, and chairman Mr. Foote. All but the first five are members of the executive committee.

Demands and request

The committee has drawn up a list stating various demands and requests that the members feel will assist in improving the quality of education at Hillhouse. The list includes seven major acres of endeavor: grievance procedures, school rules and penalties, Black History, study halls and length of school day, student council, non-teaching personnel, and the questions of additional staff and class size.

After the second wave of violence, February 5, teachers met en masse and insisted upon police protection in the schools. Attitudes towards the recent violence and attempts of the Administration to deal with them varied.

Teachers Collaborative

The Hillhouse section of the citywide Teachers Collaborative stands apart from the liaison committee. Although by far a minority group, the Collaborative, which seeks to discuss inherent problems, criticisms and solutions of the schools, has established four committees. Two of these, the Community Committee and the Discipline Committee are chaired respectively by Mrs. Fran Hammermesh and Mrs. Sandra Friday of Hillhouse.

The Collaborative is working toward teacher involvement in the rebuilding of the educational system and the employment of the community to help in the same procedure.

New Faculty Assists Staff

Several groups have been organized in an attempt to solve the grievances of students. Each group has progressed throughout the past few weeks.

Student Government

In attempts to establish a more effective Student Government, student officers released a letter, January 15, calling for answers to the problems of "Student Council elections, student-faculty relations, student-administration relations, student participation in the Student Council and in school activities."

A special meeting of the Student Government, convened January 18, established special committees to investigate each of the above problems as well as student-student relations. At their only joint meeting with the Student Council since their inception, three of the committees were able to present progress reports.

Black Student Union

As its name implies, the Black Student Union comprises black students who formed together after the December disturbance in order to "alleviate discrimination" with a main objective of "quality education for all."

The group disavows vehemently any connection with either disturbance at the school. According to spokesman Ronald Barnes, disturbances broke out due to a feeling that "the administration hasn't done anything" in accordance with the approximately twenty demands presented to the Board of Education. (The Board released a statement on the immediate and long range progress being made at the end of the allotted thirty day reaction period, February 7.)

The Union, while publicly stating that it does not "condone the violence," is striving for the goal that "the black man is not made to feel inferior."

White support

White students have recently organized in support of the B.S.U. demands. Their feeling is that students should unify under common grievances for the general betterment of the school. The group has initiated a series of seminars dealing with questions students may have about education, violence, city politics, and other pertinent issues.

Committee of Ten

The Student Representation Committee, an *ad hoc* student group, has elected Roy Brooks and Paul Smolen as co-chairmen, and a Steering Committee of ten students.

The Representation Committee drew up a list of recommendations comparative to that of the Black Student union. Paul Smolen comments, "This group represents all students, and we hope to develop it into an organization through which student grievances can come through and student views can be aired."

Several groups have been organized in an attempt to solve the grievances of students. Each group has progressed throughout the past few weeks.

Student Government

Progress reports from the Board of Education on changes at Hillhouse High include the announcement that five new teachers have been added to the staff here.

The five new teachers have been assigned to the school as part of the effort to reduce class size. The teachers' skills encompass three subjects on the Hillhouse curriculum: English, history, and math.

New English teachers

Mrs. Martha Day and Miss Pauline Keating have been assigned to the English Department. Mrs. Day, a Fullbright scholar, is an experienced educator. Currently studying for her Ph. D. at Yale, she holds diplomas from the University of North Carolina and Springfield College. Mrs. Day has also studied in France and Germany.

Miss Keating comes to Hillhouse after teaching at Waterford High School. She holds degrees from Central Connecticut and Southern Connecticut State Colleges.

Other new teachers

Other new teachers, unavailable for comment at presstime, include Mrs. Nancy Shestach of the history department, Fred Anderson of the history department, and Mrs. Beanum of the math department.

Administrative intern

Robert McAlpine continues to serve on the temporary post of administrative intern. A graduate of Hillhouse, class of 1956, Mr. McAlpine explains that his major role concerns that of a liaison between the various parent and student organizations. A graduate of Southern Connecticut State College, Mr. McAlpine taught in Guilford for five years.

School aides

Two school aides who help maintain order during the lunch hour are Mrs. Elizabeth Bynum and Mrs. Georgia Wiley. Mr. Walter Coles, a police custodian, joined the staff in January.

Members of the Black Student Union, the White Supporting Committee and the Committee of Ten meet with Mr. Seretny in attempts to resolve grievances.

Debate Team Participates In Hanover Tournament

Hillhouse Debaters have recently participated in the 19th Annual Interscholastic Debate Tournament at Dartmouth College, Hanover, New Hampshire. The team, consisting of Louis Goldblatt and Meir Westreich on the Affirmative and Ellen Goldner and David Altschuler on the Negative, lost the debate, thereby attaining a four lost and four win record.

Kingswood debate

The team also engaged in the Kingswood Invitational Debate Tournament in West Hartford, where Altschuler received the third Negative Speaking Award with the team finishing with a three and three record. They have recently won the District League championship, during which Altschuler was named the best negative speaker.

1967-68 topic

This year's topic is: "Resolved: that Congress should establish uniform regulations to control criminal investigation procedures." Under this resolution it is the obligation of the Affirmative to propose a plan suitable in complying with the terms of the resolution. In the same light, the Negative must contend in some way that the proposed resolution is neither advantageous nor beneficial.

Seniors Elect Chairmen

Members of the senior class elected Denise Courtmanche, Ray Dancey, and Janet Lorusso to be tri-chairmen of the Senior Prom Committee, and chose Michael Huberman and Barry Rosenthal to head the Class Day Committee. Elections for the Prom Committee occurred January 19, while Class Day Committee elections took place January 26.

The other candidates for the Prom Committee were Maxine Albert, Andrea Butcher and Karen Byrd. Bevlie Ellis and Harris Ginsberg competed against the winning co-chairmen of the Class Day Committee.

Denise, Ray and Janet have chosen "The Land of Oz" as their theme. The Class Day Committee, which consists of some fifteen members, plan a program depicting their three years at Hillhouse through a musical comedy.

Speakers Outline Grant Procedure

Parents, juniors, and seniors attended a Guidance Department sponsored assembly on "Financial Aid for Students" in the school auditorium, January 17. Vincent Gagliardi and Lorenzo Grant co-chairmanned the assembly.

Guest speakers included: James Simmons, executive director of the Connecticut Talent Assistance Cooperation (Conntac), Harold Osborn, financial aid officer at Quinnipiac College, and Vincent Malocco, representative of the Connecticut Student Loan Foundation.

The speakers explained methods and procedures followed in acquiring financial aid for college. Other aid programs have been scheduled by the Guidance Department.

Arts Teacher Leaves Post

After thirty-six years of service, including twenty-one years as head of the Industrial and Fine Arts department here, Donald S. Kimball announced his retirement last December. He still retains his position as Consultant to Yale and to the University of Alaska. He is a noted scientist who has published more than thirty-five papers on astronomy, and is considered an authority on the Aurora Borealis.

School background

Mr. Kimball majored in engineering at Norhteastern, and received his Master's Degree from the University of Maine. He taught in New Hampshire and was principal of two schools in Maine before he came to Hillhouse in 1932 as an electricity and physics instructor.

Scientific expeditions

Mr. Kimball has often gone on, and led, scientific expeditions. Ten times he has travelled to Alaska where he braved the Arctic cold on research missions and plans to go again this summer.

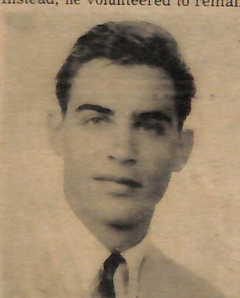
Class of '66 Graduate Dies In Action; Valiant Spirit Wins Medals, Esteem

By Kenneth Berman

The horrors of war are tragically evident when they strike close to home. Such a tragedy occurred last month when a 1966 Hillhouse graduate died in Viet Nam. Acting Army Sergeant Kenneth Cushen, 21, of the 1st squad, 11th ACR, was killed while leading a search-and-destroy mission. The small tank in which he was riding hit a landmine in the road, and he died at the nearest hospital.

Could have come home

Sgt. Cushen joined the army directly after graduation in 1966. Cushen had served in Viet Nam since May, 1967. He was awarded two Purple Hearts for wounds received near the Cambodian border in August. While in the hospital recovering from his wounds, he was given the opportunity to come home. Instead, he volunteered to remain and fight in Viet Nam.



Extraordinary person

Kenneth Cushen, affectionately called "BaBe" by his fellow classmates, was held in high esteem by all who knew him. He was quite popular, and was looked upon as a leader of his peers. Mrs. Clara Gyorgyey, his former English teacher, said that she had seldom met such an extraordinary young man as BaBe. "He was so courageous that if was extraordinary yet had a heart of butter. Although he was not a scholar, he had a brilliant mind. Also, he was a very loyal person. BaBe had qualities which are rare now. He was a **true** leader and this type is dying out." The class of 1966 and Mrs. Gyorgyey are currently working on a scholarship fund to be established in his memory.

Kenneth Cushen is the brother of John Cushen, a sophomore at Hillhouse.

From The Rostrum

Hillhouse High School at present represents an ugly scar for the city of New Haven. It represents a showcase for all the tangled webbing of centuries of prejudice and economic slavery. Something must be done at Hillhouse High School. The question is where do we start?

Primarily, all students, black or white, should be aware of the present black struggle for equality. In effect, the situation in hte school is a manifestation of this internal revolution by blacks throughout the country. Our school, as the rest of the nation, is attempting to understad this problem.

Yet, the threat of violence demands immediate action to a puzzling dilemma. Development has begun in the analysis of curriculum and school operation by student, faculty, and parent groups. Thus, student unrest can be viewed as a positive attempt to solve long-standing problems.

The situation in our school can be a model of communicative action. As violence caused recognition, progress can cause solution. Part of the problem is being let to comprehend that as prejudice is an illogical emotion, so is the reaction caused by it.

THE PEN IS MIGHTIER THAN...

The power of the press need not stop at the level of the local newspaper. The school newspaper also has a responsibility to its community - the student body. More important than simply trying to report the news are the stands taken by the paper on pertinent issues. **The Sentinel,** in recent editorial campaigns, has shown that a high school paper does have a recognizable degree of power.

Within past years, editorials run in this paper have complemented demands for new lockers in the boys' gym. Long before the disturbances here, the written campaigns of this paper demanded the unlocking of the lavatories. A similar campaign resulted in cooperation from City Hall in requests for financial aid to academic organizations.

If it is taken advantage of, the power of this paper, the official organ of the school, is an asset to every student. This paper represents you.

SENIOR PRIVILEGES — A MUST

May it be athletic, scholastic, or social, tradition is an integral part of any institution, and Hillhouse is no exception. Indeed, the senior class has been anxiously awaiting a familiar tradition at Hillhouse, one which has always made senior year interesting and alive with spirit. That something is senior privileges.

Of course, seniors do not want the privileges for their own sake, but, in a sense, these quite minor indulgences mark the difference between being a senior and an underclassman. A symbol of four years of hard work for seniors, and an incentive for others, senior privileges have always acted as the bulwark of life within Hillhouse.

With this in mind, we feel that this important facet of Hillhouse should be reinstated.

THE SENTINEL

480 Sherman Parkway, New Haven, Connecticut

This paper, the official organ of James Hillhouse High School, is published monthly during the school year by the student body under the direction of the English Department.

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Second Class Postage Paid at New Haven, Connecticut

Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor:

In the past years, a day was designated on which tests were supposed to be given in the various subjects. These test days were established to alleviate the pressure on students of having more than one test on the same day. This would be a good setup if only teachers followed these rules and not those of expediency.

Recently, it has come to my attention that students have been receiving as many as four tests in one day. To have to study for three or four tests a night as well as having to do his regularly assigned homework is a little too much for the average student to handle. This means that some homework usually goes undone.

It is hoped that teachers will learn what days their respective subjects are to be tested on, and will adhere to these days.

Sincerely,
Overworked Student

***

Dear Miss Clifford:

... I guess you heard over the news in the month of November about Hill 875. Well I was there and I was awardedthe Purple Heart and the Bronze Star. Miss Clifford, the main reason why I am writing this letter is that I quit school last January and, believe me, I do want to come back to school when I finish my 12 months in Vietnam. What I want to know is whether I can come back to school and finish my last year. I'll be back in the States around October '68, and I'll have my discharge from the United States Army. So, Miss Clifford, if I could come back to school in the fall of '68, believe me, I'll come back and finish my last year.

My name in Hillhouse last year was Marshal Edwards. I was on the football team.

Miss Clifford, if I can come back to Hillhouse in the fall of "68", would you please call my mother and let her know. I would love to hear from you again, and if you see Mr. Casey tell him I said "Hello" ...

Sincerely yours,
Marshall Bower—Vietnam

'SENTINELS' IN HILLHOUSE HIGH

RUBY WHITE

"Hey, blue, hey, white, you're looking good tonight..." When these words are heard, Ruby White, one of the February **Sentinels** of the Month, is sure to be energetically and actively taking part. Activity and energy are important parts of Ruby's personality which have led her to become involved in the projects of the senior class. She is fun to work with, for as Miss Viola Gradeck, faculty adviser of the cheerleading squad puts it, Ruby is "a compatible young lady with a pleasing personality."

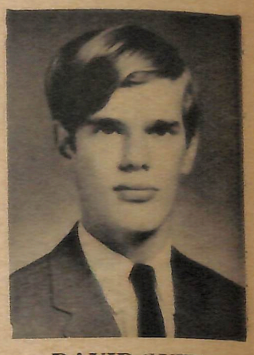
Ruby is not only kept busy as a cheerleader, but also as the president of the Girls' Athletic Association. She is a member of the Senior Executive Board, the **Gleam** Business Board, the Spanish Club, and St. Paul's steering committee. She also took part in this year's presentation of Freshman Orientation. An added responsibility is her position as senior class treasurer.

She was equally busy last year as secretary of the Junior Executive Board and head of the invitations committee for the Junior Prom.

Ruby's activity doesn't end when school does. She works in the Sherman Avenue Convalescent Home. Her hobbies require energy, too, for she enjoys bowling and pocket billiards.

If Ruby's success in Hillhouse is any sign of what is to come, she should have no trouble in accomplishing her future goal, which is to go to Southern Connecticut and become a physical education teacher.

Ruby's English teacher, Mrs. Emma Ruff, summarizes those qualities which earned Ruby the **Sentinel** of the Month: "For me, Ruby's memorable traits are a combination of the vivacity of the cheerleader with the gentleness of a real lady."



DAVID GUTE

Slowly, but persistently, the seconds tick away. The hour is approaching, and many pace the room nervously, with tiny beads of perspiration forming on foreheads. At the table in the center of the room sits a youth, calmly fitting the pieces into place, until finally the puzzle is complete. A small smile forms, which breaks into a wide grin, for Sports Editor David Gute, one of the February **Sentinels** of the Month, has completed his sport page, and once again the **Sentinel** will go to the printer on time.

Miracles such as the one illustrated above are common place for David Gute. For example, although he had not swam competitively for four years, David went out for the team as a backstroker. After cutting nearly 25 seconds from his time, he finished second in the team's first victory of the season against North Haven.

Obviously, Dave has won a substantial share of awards. Among his credits are: Hillhouse representitive in the 'State Trooper Youth Week', and alternate in the Nutmeg Boys' State, winner of the United States History prize. In addition, he ranks in the top 10% of his class. David is also known for a vivid and moving portrayal of this paper's associate editor in Freshman Orientation, where he jumped on a table top while uttering rhetoric.

David is a person with whom you can talk, for he possesses not only an open ear but also an open heart. One may never fear rejection from him, which is the reason David is so universally liked. He is "everybody's friend," yet is not plagued by the depthlessness and artificiality of such people. David Gute has one basic quality which distinguishes him: he is a human being in the deepest sense.

'Bonnie and Clyde' Meet 'Naked Ape'

By Terry Montlick, Guest Writer

A rich, black roadster pulls up to a gas station. "Hi! We're Bonnie Parker and Clyde Barrow. We rob banks."

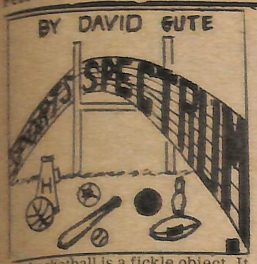
So begins the adventures of Bonnie and Clyde, as they romp across the screen to the tune of Flatt and Scruggs' **Foggy Mountain Breakdown,** and across the dignity of America. Bonnie Parker (Faye Dunaway) is a voluptuous but bored waitress who bubbles joyously over the existence of Clyde Barrow (Warren Beatty), an ex-convict whom she met while he was attempting to steal the family Ford. The two decide that the easiest way to get whatever they desire is to steal it. Along their free-wheeling path to glorious crime they meet one C.W. Moss (Michael Pollard), a boyish, pumpkin-faced garage mechanic who makes for an expert getaway car driver (except for his tendency to park the getaway car). The Barrow Gang is rounded out by Clyde's brother and loudmouth sister-in-law, plus a brief stint by a couple of lovers whose car Clyde had stolen.

The film is all fun and games until something peculiar happens — Clyde kills a bank clerk in cold blood. The movie theatre is silent except for a few people who laugh and then feel embarrassed. The air has changed, and from this moment on, blood and death are to become commonplace. At the end of the film, Bonnie and Clyde are ambushed and killed; their bodies perforated with hundreds of bullet holes.

Some people are very hostile towards **Bonnie & Clyde,** violently declaring that its violence is in bad taste. These same people might enjoy themselves at a boxing match, watch a demolition derby, or let their kids see Elmer Fudd attempt to split Bugs Bunny's skull. Why, then, do we treat different manners of violence in unlike fashions? The answer is difficult to admit. We enjoy those forms of violence that we can justify and get away with.

This idea can best be understood by examining the animal nature of man. The soon to be published book, **The Naked Ape** by Desmond Morris, does just this, and gives the species of man no more exaltation than one would give to a culture of bacteria. To quote from Mr. Morris: "As I have repeatedly stressed, we naked apes are, despite all our technological advances, still very much a simple biological phenomenon. Despite our grandiose ideas and our lofty self-conceits, we are still humble animals, subject to all the basic laws of animal behavior... Sooner or later we shall go, making way for something else... This is why I have written this manuscript and why I have deliberately insulted us by referring to us as naked apes, rather than by the more usual name we use for ourselves. It helps to keep a sense of proportion and to force us to consider what is going on just below the surface of our lives."

We permit ourselves to enjoy that type of violence from which "good" can conceivably result, such as the punishment of a criminal, under the pretense that we are wholly concerned with the criminal's best interests. In reality we are hoping to see him beaten to a pulp just for the thrill of it. We long to satisfy our natural urge for fighting, which society has so effectively stifled. We enjoy any violence which we have an excuse to enjoy. **Bonnie & Clyde** leaves us no excuses. It forces us to admit to ourselves not only our animal descent but our animal existence.



A basketball is a fickle object. It bounces, wobbles, and spins and is totally unpredictable. Like a basketball, our team's performance has varied from excellent to the depths of incompetency. This varying quality makes this year's edition a very exciting and, unnerving squad to watch.

In some games, the team plays a brand of ball which is truly crushing, continually crashing the boards for vital rebounds and baskets. This power is complemented by fine ball handling and keen outside shooting.

But, as on a coin, there are two sides. During an off night the squad lacks aggressiveness and loses its facility for moving the ball. This failure occurs when a well executed pressure defense (a la Wilbur Cross) is clamped on it.

This problem of solving a press is the obstacle which is holding this team from true greatness. If this is solved, the state championship may come to rest again in New Haven and not in the shadow of East Rock.

Trackmen Lace Up For Season

Hillhouse's track squad starts its '68 season with hard pre-season practice designed to get the team into top shape. By calling themselves the track club, they are able to get in miles of practice before the season starts March 15.

The team is led by Coach Michael Nast and co-captained by Donald Kaplan and Gordon Cables. Kaplan is a distance man, and everyone is expecting top performance from him in the mile event. Cables is one of the best weight men in the district. Last year he threw the shot 51'. If he can start the season with that, he will probably become one of the best shot-putters in the state. Both co-captains are good leaders and are highly dedicated to the sport.

Returning boys will be a big asset to the team this season. They include Paul Smolen, Josh Gold, William Sullivan, John Mele, Tony Lopes, and Bob Sims.

Says Coach Nast, "I think if the boys practice hard, and are dedicated to the sport, we'll surprise a lot of teams this year."

SPORTS SPECIAL TOMORROW

House Quintet Bounces Back

The Cross machine has claimed another victim, our own Academics. A small crowd watched the Governors wear down the upset-minded Acs by a score of 105-80 at Yale's Payne Whitney Gym February 10.

Foul trouble plagued both teams, due mainly to the fact that Hillhouse tried to run with the fast-break conscious Governors. The resulting fouls placed a premium on bench strength, and because of Cross' clear cut advantage in this area, the game was out of reach.

The gap was closed to 28-27, but Curvan Lewis, after picking up his third personal, accompanied Charlie Crawford to the bench.

In the third quarter, Hillhouse kept within sight of Cross through the shooting of their top gun Charlie Farley. When both Lewis and Vaughn fouled out in the last quarter, all hope was gone. Cross, relying on its strong reserves, held the complete advantage, and the game ended with no doubt in anyone's mind as to Cross' rating as one of the best teams in the state.

After the Cross debacle the Hillhouse squad was faced with two though encounters. They responded with victories in both of these games, numbering both Eli Whitney and Notre Dame as victims. During both of these clashes the power and speed which was missing from the Cross game came through.

Big Curvin Lewis puts it up as teammates and opponents look on.

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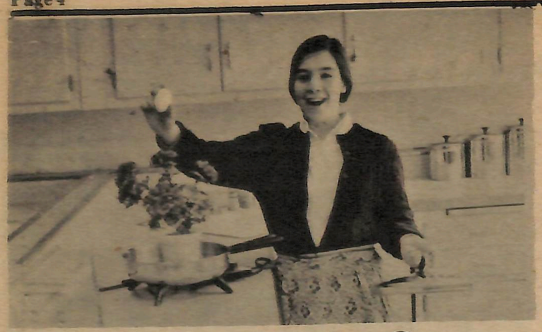

Libov Advances In Contest For Betty Crocker Award

Charlotte Libov, a Hillhouse senior, has won the 1968 Betty Crocker Search for the American Homemaker of Tomorrow school award. She received the highest score on a standard, nationwide test administered December 5.

All twelfth grade girls were eligible to take the fifty minute exam sponsored by General Mills. It included not only basic homemaking skills, but also family budgeting, buying and furnishing a home, child care and training, and participation in community life. The main portion of the test involved multiple-choice questions; the remainder was an essay question. Based upon test scores, students were ranked from high to low. These scores were then compared with the marks obtained by all the girls in the nation.

Charlotte said of the test: "Winning the award has increased my interest in home economics. Even though I may not make a career out of it, I feel that homemaking should be a part of every girl's basic knowledge."

Charlotte may now enter in the competition for the State Homemaker of Tomorrow. Based on the regular examination, personal observation, and an interview, the All-American Homemaker of Tomorrow will be chosen from the state winners.

Charlotte will be presented with a specially designed Betty Crocker "Homemaker of Tomorrow" Award.

Students' Reactions Vary; Express Concern, Regret

Although school disturbances capture the headlines, student reaction also manifests itself in a more subtle way — verbal discussion. This reporter received the following comments on the situation at Hillhouse. Most of the sources preferred to remain anonymous.

A frequent topic of conversation concerns the presence of police in the school. The majority of students regret their presence, although some feel that they are necessary at this time. As one student comments, "I don't like having them here, but what else can be done?" Opposing opinion ranges from vehement dislike to mild contempt, with comments such as "I think it's a shame to have police in a school, which is supposed to be a place of learning" and "Martial law is not the answer".

The fundamental question of what should be done and how proves more complex, and draws varied responses. "I'm still waiting for the administration to take positive action towards solving the many real problems here at school," states one frustrated student. "Things are changing for the better, but time is needed," remarks a student.

Concerning the causes for the recent disturbance, diverse opinions again emerge. Among them are: "The trouble lies in the hands of a small percent of troublemakers." "The responsibility lies within a backward school system," and "An outward display of justified frustration."

Sophomore Wins In City Contest

David Marc Altschuler, a sophomore, recently placed first representing Hillhouse in the city wide competition of "Freedom's Challenge." He competed against representatives of other area high schools. His win made him eligible for the district competition which includes twenty-one surrounding cities.

David's oratorical talent has also proven itself in other varied aspects. While the Hillhouse Varsity Debate Team placed first in the league, David was recognized as the best negative speaker.

David's other extra-curricular activities include the **Sentinel**, York Square Players, work in the Blue and White Shoppe, and membership in the Student Council.

Board Approves Course Proposal

Proposals to create an Afro-American history course at Hillhouse have materialized into reality. The New Haven Board of Education has approved the course, to be included in next year's curriculum. The proposed course, open to juniors and seniors, will be of full credit value.

The course emphasizes the history of the Afro-American people and civilization from its origin in Africa to its achievements in America. The intent of the course is to give all students a greater background of the history, problems, and accomplishments of the black people in our society.

Highlighting the study will be coverage of Afro-American art, music, language, and literature. Of particular importance in the study will be the Negro in the Civil War and Reconstruction era, civil rights legislation and obstacles to Negro advancement, such as racism and prejudice. Objective study will be devoted to future trends in Afro-American culture and development and race relations in this country.

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